

<b>Item No.</b> 5.2	<b>Classification:</b> Open	<b>Date:</b> 16 October 2013	<b>Meeting Name:</b> Council Assembly
<b>Report title:</b>		Motions	
<b>Ward(s) or groups affected:</b>		All	
<b>From:</b>		Proper Constitutional Officer	

## BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The councillor introducing or “moving” the motion may make a speech directed to the matter under discussion. This may not exceed five minutes<sup>1</sup>.

A second councillor will then be asked by the Mayor to “second” the motion. This may not exceed three minutes without the consent of the Mayor.

The meeting will then debate the issue and any amendments on the motion will be dealt with.

At the end of the debate the mover of the motion may make a concluding speech, known as a “right of reply”. If an amendment is carried, the mover of the amendment shall hold the right of reply to any subsequent amendments and, if no further amendments are carried, at the conclusion of the debate on the substantive motion.

The Mayor will then ask councillors to vote on the motion (and any amendments).

## IMPLICATIONS OF THE CONSTITUTION

The constitution allocates responsibility for particular functions to council assembly, including approving the budget and policy framework, and allocates to the cabinet responsibility for developing and implementing the budget and policy framework and overseeing the running of council services on a day-to-day basis. Therefore any matters that are reserved to the cabinet (i.e. housing, social services, regeneration, environment, education etc) cannot be decided upon by council assembly without prior reference to the cabinet. While it would be in order for council assembly to discuss an issue, consideration of any of the following should be referred to the cabinet:

- to change or develop a new or existing policy
- to instruct officers to implement new procedures
- to allocate resources.

**Note:** In accordance with council assembly procedure rule 2.10 (7) & (8) (prioritisation and rotation by the political groups) the order in which motions appear in the agenda may not necessarily be the order in which they are considered at the meeting.

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<sup>1</sup> Council assembly procedure rule 1.14 (9)

**1. MOTION FROM COUNCILLOR TIM McNALLY** (Seconded by Councillor Paul Kyriacou)

**Save our Local Pubs**

Council assembly:

1. Recognises the important role local pubs play in the life of our borough by providing a community hub for residents to meet, relax, debate and do business
2. Notes with regret the decline of community pubs in recent years, as the use of properties for other means has become more financially lucrative
3. Further notes that the council has granted permission for plans resulting in the loss of a pub or bar at least 8 times in the last year
4. Supports campaigns by Simon Hughes MP, Southwark News and The Campaign for Real Ale (CAMRA) to reverse this decline and put local pubs back at the heart of our communities
5. Calls on the cabinet to reflect the council's commitment by:
  - i. Supporting community groups who wish to register their local pubs as assets of community value;
  - ii. Submitting a request to the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government under the Sustainable Communities Act for full planning powers to be returned to the council to allow it to prevent pubs from being converted to alternative uses; and
  - iii. Amending Southwark's local planning policies to stipulate that no pub will be allowed to change use unless it is demonstrated that continued trading is not economically viable, the premises has been marketed as a pub unsuccessfully for a stipulated minimum period, and the change will not create a shortage of pubs within easy walking distance of the premises.

**Note:** If the motion is agreed, any proposals will be submitted to the cabinet for consideration.

**2. MOTION FROM COUNCILLOR PETER JOHN** (Seconded by Councillor Dora Dixon-Fyle )

**Support for Free Healthy School Meals**

Council assembly:

- welcomes the final stage of the roll out of free healthy school meals to all primary school children in the borough
- notes the feedback from parents, carers and teachers who are reporting improved attainment, better concentration, fewer discipline issues, and healthy eating both inside and outside of school

- is encouraged that such positive feedback will be contributing towards the challenge of childhood obesity in Southwark
- welcomes the commitment from the coalition government that they will be following Southwark's example and introducing a national scheme of school meals for the youngest children in primary schools.

However, council assembly also:

- believes that the government scheme will fall short of what is needed by only providing free school meals for the youngest children
- notes with concern that the government scheme will mean that primary school children in years 3, 4, 5 and 6 would lose their free healthy school meal unless local councils like Southwark have their own scheme in place and prioritises the budget to do so
- notes that the Liberal Democrat Group in Southwark has consistently voted to remove the budget for free healthy school meals which would result in children losing this important meal each day
- notes that free healthy school meals in Southwark have been opposed by Liberal Democrat members who have voted against them and by Bermondsey and Old Southwark MP, Simon Hughes, who was writing to constituents as recently as September opposing Southwark's plans.

Council assembly therefore:

- utterly condemns Southwark Liberal Democrat's record opposition to free healthy school meals in Southwark for all primary school children.
- asks cabinet to write to the Deputy Prime Minister welcoming his announcement on free school meals for all children in their first three years of school, urging an expansion of the scheme to all primary school children, and offering to work with government to show how Southwark has made this such a resounding success
- calls on cabinet to continue to deliver free healthy school meals for all primary school children in Southwark.

**Note:** If the motion is agreed, any proposals will be submitted to the cabinet for consideration.

**3. MOTION FROM COUNCILLOR ROSIE SHIMELL** (Seconded by Councillor Jonathan Mitchell)

**Green Flags**

Council assembly:

1. Notes that Southwark residents benefit hugely from the many green spaces across the borough, and believes the council should do as much as possible to promote our parks to maximise use.

2. Further notes the great progress which has been made in this respect over recent years with Southwark having now been awarded a total of fourteen green flags across the borough.
3. Calls on the cabinet member for transport, environment and recycling and his team to commit to nominating other parks in Southwark for the Green Flag award this year, including Goose Green, St Francis and Dawsons Heights in Dulwich, which are all wonderful assets to their neighbouring communities.

**Note:** If the motion is agreed, any proposals will be submitted to the cabinet for consideration.

**4. MOTION FROM COUNCILLOR ELIZA MANN** (Seconded by Councillor Anood Al-Samerai)

**Damp in Peter Butler House**

Council assembly notes the severe damp in Peter Butler House and calls on cabinet to order a full investigation into the problem to ensure this block is 'dry'.

**Note:** If the motion is agreed, any proposals will be submitted to the cabinet for consideration.

**5. MOTION FROM COUNCILLOR MARK GETTLESON** (Seconded by Councillor Denise Capstick)

**Clean up Tower Bridge Road**

1. Council assembly welcomes the efforts of the Tower Bridge Road Business Alliance to improve Tower Bridge Road.
2. Council assembly calls on the cabinet to commit to getting the basics right by increasing the regularity of street cleaning and rubbish collection in the area.

**Note:** If the motion is agreed, any proposals will be submitted to the cabinet for consideration.

**BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS**

<b>Background Papers</b>	<b>Held At</b>	<b>Contact</b>
Member Motions	Constitutional Team 160 Tooley Street London SE1 2QH	Andrew Weir 020 7525 7222

## AUDIT TRAIL

<b>Lead Officer</b>	Alexa Coates, Principal Constitutional Officer
<b>Report Author</b>	Lesley John, Constitutional Officer
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